

AGRICULTURAL VOLUNTARY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Clean water and agriculture are critical to Utah's future and highly valued by residents along the Wasatch front and throughout rural Utah. The goal of the Agriculture Voluntary Incentive Program (AgVIP) is to incentivize agricultural producers to implement practices that can increase crop yields, improve soil health and add value to their operations while improving water quality.



The Agricultural Voluntary Incentive Program has the potential to increase the number of acres implementing Nutrient Management Plans by more than **20,000 acres** per year.



**ELEMENTS OF THE
AGRICULTURAL
VOLUNTARY
INCENTIVE
PROGRAM**

1. AgVIP provides much needed funding for agricultural infrastructure in targeted watersheds.
2. \$12/acre direct payment to Utah agricultural producers plus \$1,000 one-time payment.
3. Build the technical capacity of state-level agencies to help producers increase yields and better understand nutrient issues.
4. Increases compliance assistance and program oversight.
5. Leverages partner funding at a 4:1 ratio.



42% of waters in Utah are impaired. Only one third of these waters are affected by regulated discharges.



The AgVIP Pilot Program was launched using **\$1 million** in one-time funding from the Gold King Mine Settlement and **\$150,000** in state funding. 32 landowners signed up increasing the total acreage in Utah implementing nutrient management plans from **8,623** to **19,686**.

RESULTS OF THE AGRICULTURAL VOLUNTARY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

In 2020, after a one-month application period, **32 agricultural operations** enrolled in the AgVIP, totaling **\$662,806** in requests.

Operations in the program consist of:

- **18** Dairies
- **1** Hog operation
- **7** Cow/Calf operations
- **1** Poultry operations
- **4** Beef feedlots

Applications were received from:

- Box Elder
- Cache
- Weber
- Morgan
- Garfield
- Piute
- Millard
- Sanpete
- Tooele

Interest in the AgVIP continues to grow. Nine agricultural operations covering **7,161 acres** have already submitted applications for 2021. Many partners including local conservation districts, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Utah Association of Conservation District, and Utah State University Extension have promised support for AgVIP.

These practices will **improve water quality and agriculture production**. 27 AgVIP applicants have operations in watersheds with nutrient impairments, 17 have operations that border surface waters, and six are in source water protection areas.